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## <u>Claims</u>

What is claimed is:

1. A projection type display unit, comprising,

an imager defining a plurality of controllable pixels;

a light source for exclusively generating light of a selected color, said light source arranged for transmitting said light through said imager to produce an image; and

a projector lens for magnifying and focusing said image for projection on a screen;

wherein said light source is comprised of a field emission device exciting a resonant microcavity anode with an active region, said active region having a phosphor disposed therein for emitting light of said selected color.

- 2. The projection display unit according to claim 1 wherein said imager is an LCOS device.
- 3. The projection display unit according to claim 1 wherein three said imagers are provided and three said field emission devices are provided, each of said field emission devices exclusively generating a distinct color of light for projection through a respective one of said imagers to produce three distinct color images.
- 4. The projection display unit according to claim 3 wherein said three field emission devices produce red, green and blue light respectively.
- 5. The projection display unit according to claim 4 further comprising an optical combiner, said optical combiner merging each of said distinct color images to form a single composite image.
- 6. An illumination source for a LCOS projection system, comprising:

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a vacuum cavity;

an array of field emission display points on a first side of the vacuum cavity;

an array of resonant microcavity anodes on a second side of the vacuum cavity for generating light of a selected color;

wherein said field emission display points are electron emitters used to excite array of resonant microcavity anodes to exclusively generate light of said selected color.

- 7. The illumination source according to claim 6 wherein said array of resonant microcavity anodes is arranged so that said light is projected through an LCOS device to produce an image.
- 8. The illumination source according to claim 7 further comprising a projector lens for magnifying and focusing said image for projection on a screen.
- 9. A method for displaying an image, comprising,

exciting an array of resonant microcavities configured for exclusively emitting light of a selected color;

projecting said light through an LCOS imager defining a plurality of controllable pixels to produce an image; and

magnifying and focusing said image through a lens for projection on a screen.

- 10. The method according to claim 9 further comprising the steps of: optically combining said image produced with said light of said selected color with at least one other image of a second selected color distinct from said first selected color.
- 11. The method according to claim 10 wherein said colors are selected from the group consisting of red, green and blue.